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summaries of the statute law are complete and up-to-date. And by the retention of the notes of his predecessors he has given to the work the value of cumulative research and verification.

W. M. M.

*Cyclopedia of Law and Procedure.* Edited by William Mack and Howard P. Nash. American Law Book Company, New York. 1903, 1904. Vol. 9, pp. 998; vol. 10, pp. 1370. Sheep.

Without proving the worth of an encyclopedia by practice it is almost impossible to pass criticism upon it. A work of this character is tested only by experience, and its value determined by the assistance it offers in searching out the law. However, on a short acquaintance with the books several points of marked importance over the preceeding encyclopedias are noticeable. An encyclopedia is composed of three parts, the analytical indexes, the text proper, and the citations. The practitioner is concerned more especially with the first and last. In these two departments the editors have made the greatest improvements. The index of each subject is divided into more main topics than has heretofore been customary. This is a decided advantage. There is a less amount of small type to look over in finding the law of the case. The subject of corporations well illustrates this. The index here is divided into more than twenty headings, as, for example, "By-Laws, Rules and Regulations," "Directors," "Bonds and Mortgages," being of such a character that it is easy to associate a point of law with the proper topic. This introductory index refers the reader to the very minute analysis which precedes the discussion. In detail the analyses are more exhaustive than we find in the Century Digest, but there is no reason why this should lead to confusion. Using the text as a medium, cases in point are the object of our search. It is essential, then, that the authorities given in support of a proposition should support it, that they should be the best law on the subject, and should be arranged according to states. It is a common criticism on the encyclopedia now in use that the authorities do not always support the propositions laid down in the text. By looking over a few columns of citations one cannot say whether or not this criticism will apply to the *Cyclopedia of Law and Procedure*.

The whole of each topic, including Pleadings, Evidence, and questions of Law and Fact, are treated under a single head. This is the wiser method. Experience has shown that in considering a question of pleading or evidence, encyclopedias on these very subjects are abandoned in favor of the work which treats a topic from every standpoint. The leading articles of Vol IX. are Contracts, and Copyrights, the former written by J. D. Lawson and the latter by Edmund Wetmore. The discussion of Contracts is especially valuable, because of the clear treatment of the modern law which it contains. Such subjects as Advertisement, under Offer and Acceptance, and Contracts in Restraint of Trade, are carefully and clearly treated. The same may be said in general of Copyrights. With the

exception of ten pages, the whole of Vol. X is given to corporations, written by Judge Seymour D. Thompson. The law is strictly up to date, and, being written in a most compact manner, with the bulk of the treatise in fine print, this volume should serve the purpose of a much larger work on the same subject. The Cyclopedia is supplemented by annual annotations. The practical working of this simple scheme cannot be better shown than by quoting the following from the editor's note:

"If the examination of the original article is confined to 1 Cyc. 20 reference to this volume (referring to the supplement) will show that no new cases have arisen, but if it is extended to 1 Cyc. 21, reference hereto will show annotations to notes 9 and 10 on that page. Reading these annotations in connection with the text and note 1 Cyc. 21 will show whether the law as there stated has been followed or deviated from in any degree."

There is no apparent scarcity of law publications. Many of them must fail, while the fittest survive. The first ten volumes speak well for the work, and if the publication continues of the same character, the prospects are that sooner or later it will enjoy the approval of the Bar.

J. L. L.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

REAL PROPERTY. By Alfred G. Reeves. Little, Brown and Co., Boston, 1904. Sheep, pp. 978. *Review will follow.*

LAW IN DAILY LIFE: A Collection of Legal Questions Connected with the Ordinary Events of Everyday Life. From the German of Rud. Von Jhering by Henry Goudy, D.C.L. Oxford at the Clarendon Press, 1904. *Review will follow.*

REVISTA LITERARIA. Habana, Cuba.

COMPARATIVE SUMMARY AND INDEX OF LEGISLATION. University of the State of New York, 1903. Paper, pp. 771.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE IOWA BAR ASSOCIATION. Ninth Annual Session, 1903.

THE LIFE OF JOHN MARSHALL. By Henry Flanders. T. & J. W. Johnson & Co., 1904. Cloth, pp. 278. *Review will follow.*

THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW: An Answer to Dean Ames's Latest Criticisms. By John Lawrence Farrell. Pamphlet.

PATENTS. By Albert H. Walker. Baker, Voorhis and Company, New York, 1904. Sheep, pp. 889. *Review will follow.*